

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08
USIA-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 OIC-02
/093 R

DRAFTED BY IO/AGR:AMORA
APPROVED BY IO/AGR:PJBARNES
ARA/CAR:RSSURBER
-----021510 082059Z /45

R 071648Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 241585

ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: FAO, PORG, JM,US

SUBJECT: JAMAICAN CANDIDACY FOR FAO COUNCIL

REF: KINGSTON 5770

1. DEPARTMENT NOTES JAMAICAN REQUEST FOR USG SUPPORT FOR ITS CANDIDACY TO THE FAO COUNCIL AND WILL ACCORD IT EVERY CONSIDERATION. IN CONVEYING THIS TO FOREIGN MINISTRY, EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO NOTE THAT USG POLICY RE FAO COUNCIL ELECTIONS HAS BEEN TO SUPPORT, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, THOSE NATIONS WHOSE CANDIDACIES ARE ENDORSED BY MEMBERS OF THEIR GEOGRAPHIC REGION.

2. FYI: US POLICY ABOVE HEWS CLOSELY TO THE GUIDELINES
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FOR COUNCIL ELECTIONS SET FORTH IN THE FAO CONSTITUTION. THE CONSTITUTION CALLS FOR THE GROUPING BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION OF FAO MEMBERS, THE ALLOTMENT OF COUNCIL SEATS (42) BY REGIONS (7), AND ROTATION TO THE COUNCIL BY THE NATIONS IN A REGIONAL GROUP. UNDER THIS SYSTEM, MEMBER NATIONS OF A REGIONAL GROUP ENDORSE, AFTER MUTUAL CONSULTATIONS, THE GROUP NATIONS THAT WILL STAND FOR

ELECTION TO THE REGION'S COUNCIL SEATS. NATIONS WITH THIS
ENDORSEMENT GENERALLY HAVE GAINED ELECTION TO THE
COUNCIL.

3. JAMAICA IS ONE OF 27 NATIONS BELONGING TO THE FAO
LATIN AMERICA GROUP, WHICH HOLDS EIGHT COUNCIL SEATS AND
WILL PICK UP A NINTH AT THE NOVEMBER CONFERENCE WHEN THE
COUNCIL EXPANDS TO 49. FIVE OF THESE SEATS WILL COME
OPEN AT THE CONFERENCE AND JAMAICA AND EL SALVADOR ARE
THUS FAR THE ONLY LATIN AMERICA GROUP NATIONS TO HAVE
INFORMED US OF THEIR CANDIDACIES. END FYI CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, POLICIES, ELECTIONS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE241585
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AMORA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770369-0088
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771081/aaaacqzv.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f94f5734-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 KINGSTON 5770
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 990878
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAMAICAN CANDIDACY FOR FAO COUNCIL
TAGS: PORG, EAGR, JM, US, FAO
To: KINGSTON
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f94f5734-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009